

Let's Help the Y.W.C.A.

# OKLAHOMA CITY TIMES

Pay Up!

## OKLAHOMA CITY TIMES

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### THE FAIR WAY.

INDICATIONS that alternative good roads plans will be submitted to the people along with the proposed fifty million dollar bond issue, is evidence of a commendable spirit of fair play. However a road project is financed, the people of the state will pay the bill. They should have a chance at the earliest moment to voice their preference, and after the discussion and publicity occasioned by legislative activities on the project, should be able to choose intelligently. Submission of two or three plans is also an indication of an honest desire to secure the construction of hard-surfaced roads, rather than a determination to force through a single measure, or prevent the passage of any other.

Opposition to a fifty million dollar bond issue has not been based on any desire to prevent road building; rather, it was prompted by a desire to get the best results for such money as should be invested. The same is true of opposition to committing the state exclusively to concrete construction. Before the legislature approves any measure, and long before the people are asked to make their choice, if they are, everyone interested should have opportunity to state his case to the public, and the public, in turn, will have a chance to secure a more thorough understanding of the possibilities of the several plans proposed.

Such procedure is in accordance with true democracy, and it also improves the outlook for better highways, which are badly needed. It does not matter that there are differences of opinion on the matter. Indeed, it is well that there are, so long as they are honest differences, and their advocates are willing to view the problem from all its angles. It is fair that the public should choose in this matter, and better for all concerned that persistent publicity give them every possible chance to make a wise selection. With but a single choice, and that the most expensive, the whole project was endangered, for, in any event, where a bond issue is involved, the last word rests with the people.

There is still a wide difference between the house and senate committee bills, while the plan of Senator Thomas to finance the roads without a bond issue has so much to commend it that something of that kind should be among the measures submitted to the people, since there seems no chance that the legislature will embody its provisions in law. Having seriously turned its attention to securing better roads, the legislature, in all fairness, should have sufficient spirit of compromise to give the people their choice of several plans.

London is having so many different kinds of strikes that a man from Kansas City would feel right at home there.

The divorce industry having languished at Reno, Nev., that once noted center is now trying to land the Willard fight.

You can't consider this week's work properly done until you have met your quota of that Y. W. C. A. fund.

Care should be taken to select the best men for city offices, but Major John Alley's plan to draft them lacks a draft law to back it; they will have to volunteer, and then put up quite a scrap to get elected.

Propaganda to overthrow the government by violence fails to excite us greatly. It should be stopped now, because we don't want violence, and because disloyalty deserves punishment, but the mass of Americans are sufficiently loyal and sufficiently sane to limit bolshevism largely to the long-haired men and short-haired women.

### THE GRADUATED LAND TAX.

WHILE the action of the Oklahoma house of representatives in passing the graduated land tax bill, aimed at large holdings, does not insure its enactment into law, it does give renewed prominence to a measure aimed at the evil of tenantry. Even if passed, a fight on its constitutionality is a reasonable expectation, nor would it, of itself, even if sustained, be sufficient entirely to eliminate all the evils at which it is aimed. The land barons might pass, as cattle barons ceased to be when fences cut up the range country, and farms supplanted ranches over most of the west, but many of the tenant farmers would be tenant farmers still, with an outlook as uncertain and hopeless as today.

It is admitted that the ideal for any agricultural state is to have farms of reasonable proportions tilled by their owners. Huge farms, operated on an immense scale by companies or wealthy individuals may be entirely successful; they may even increase the yield by scientific methods, and lower the cost of production by those and other means. But they cannot build up the same substantial citizenship with that interest in the welfare and improvement of the communities, which is common to the regions where farmers own their farms and work them.

But laws cannot make the shiftless indolent, nor eliminate waste and bad management. There are tenant farmers who need only a little opportunity, the encouragement of fair prices and loans at reasonable terms, to become farm owners. Such men deserve every encouragement which law or public spirit can afford. Unhappily, there are others who lack many of the essentials of success. They present a more difficult problem, and one not readily solved by statute. But difficulties should not discourage the effort to reach and help even them. Perhaps, though less deserving, according to ordinary standards, they need assistance more than the others.

They would not be greatly helped by a graduated land tax law; theirs is more a problem of education and encouragement, with more substantial aid when they have attained the capacity to use it to advantage. It is a large problem, but one deserving the attention of legislators and all who are interested in the welfare of the state. It has been demonstrated that cities can be freed from slum evils. It is up to society to prove that the rural districts can uplift the type of tenant farmer whose lot is so unhappy because of present conditions and his own shortcomings.

We have said that the graduated land tax will not do it, but as a step in that direction, it is worth trying. Without covering the whole scope of the evil, it must, if sustained, make for a reduction of tenantry, and that, of itself, will be some improvement. An old problem and difficult cannot be solved in a hurry, but that is no reason it should not be undertaken.

Prospects of a Creek Indian war probably are greatly exaggerated, and the peace conference should go ahead with its European job.

Since the main war is over, it will surprise no one to note that the Hearst newspapers have again resumed war against Great Britain.

Premier Lenin has called a "terrorist" conference in Russia probably because that is about the only kind that could be assembled there.

There seems to be no doubt that the government will fulfill its guarantee to the wheat growers, and the automobile factories should put on extra shifts.

A "moonshine" still has been discovered somewhere within "forty-five minutes of Broadway," New York, and there will be more of that sort of thing as national prohibition becomes effective. But those considering investment in that infant industry should realize that discovery can always be counted to cut into the profits.

## Don't Worry

—BUNN

CLOTHES BREAK THE MAN.  
The custom tailors say a man  
should have at least a dozen suits,  
And maybe predatory places  
Can meet the cost of such a outfit.

And such a nuptial splendor calls  
For scores of shirts, beyond a doubt,  
For boats for indoor wear and out,  
And top coats for both spring and fall.

If one possessed such gaudiness tags,  
He'd show a million-dollar front,  
But could he purchase grub and clothes?

To one whose ancient handkerchiefs  
Refuse hard wear and everything,  
It seems unlikely that a king  
Could have twelve suits, including  
a cravat.

And such a one consults the price  
Of caskets soon to be in style,  
And hopes the old ones best suitable,  
Until his debts are paid on time.

Now will he take the tailors' word  
For what the wardrobe should come  
to—  
It now is striking hard to gain  
Position as a styling bird.

So let the custom tailors' calls  
Ring out for candy kidin' duds,  
Then let them start our solution—  
Where we may had in overallis.

Then tell the world it is a joke  
That natty clothing makes the men  
For who could buy twelve suits and  
the otherwise than stony looks?

Time flies so fast that they  
hardly quit breaking through the  
thin ice before they begin rock-  
ing the boat.

Of course, as a local gathering  
points out, it is a shame to have  
peasants to poverty in their dressing  
years, but the blow is come and  
somewhat by the fact that many of  
them get used to it before retirement.  
And that, also, is a shame. The idea  
that salvation is free needs to be  
revised upward, the way the pro-growth  
republicans used to handle the  
truth.

And that is another indication of  
advancing years, we recall those  
stirring times when the tariff was  
regarded as a dominant issue, and  
political orators were up and down  
the land, making a noise like an  
awful machine with figures to prove it.

A ten dollar tracer has been  
sent out to secure a suitable good  
roads slogan. "Fifty million  
dollars or bust" seems to be the  
selection of certain law-giving  
gentlemen.

A veteran of the recent campaign  
in North Carolina says the times  
part of army life is getting out.

Putnam City farmers who are go-  
ing to celebrate St. Valentine's day  
with some sort of livestock judging  
performance, may have plenty of  
sense, but they sure are short on sensi-  
tive sentiment.

A GENTLE HINT.

Contributors, who help to make this paper—  
less plumb of rhyme and reason.

Remember that you have a year  
within your open season.

Our willingness to let the women  
do the work is w. k. hot girls who  
may contemplate entering the service  
of Ponca City dayman as  
milk maids, might as well understand  
to start with that being a million  
in a dairy is quite different from  
playing a similar role in the chorus  
of a comic opera.

Probably the honeymoon changes  
quicker than any other satellite.

While it is a bushes organization in  
the No Tobacco league ought to be  
able to finish the season, the crop of  
nuts who support that sort of thing  
really showing a shortage.

That's Different.

"An ounce of prevention is worth a  
pound of cure," remarked the Op-

"But suppose you are selling the  
cure?" demanded the Peasant.

Oop!

I asked a tailor for a jacket,  
But said was too fat.  
Well, no! I'll let you have a bone,  
But I am very short."

Then It Happened.

"I wonder if you could?" mused the

Rimini, as he picked up his change.

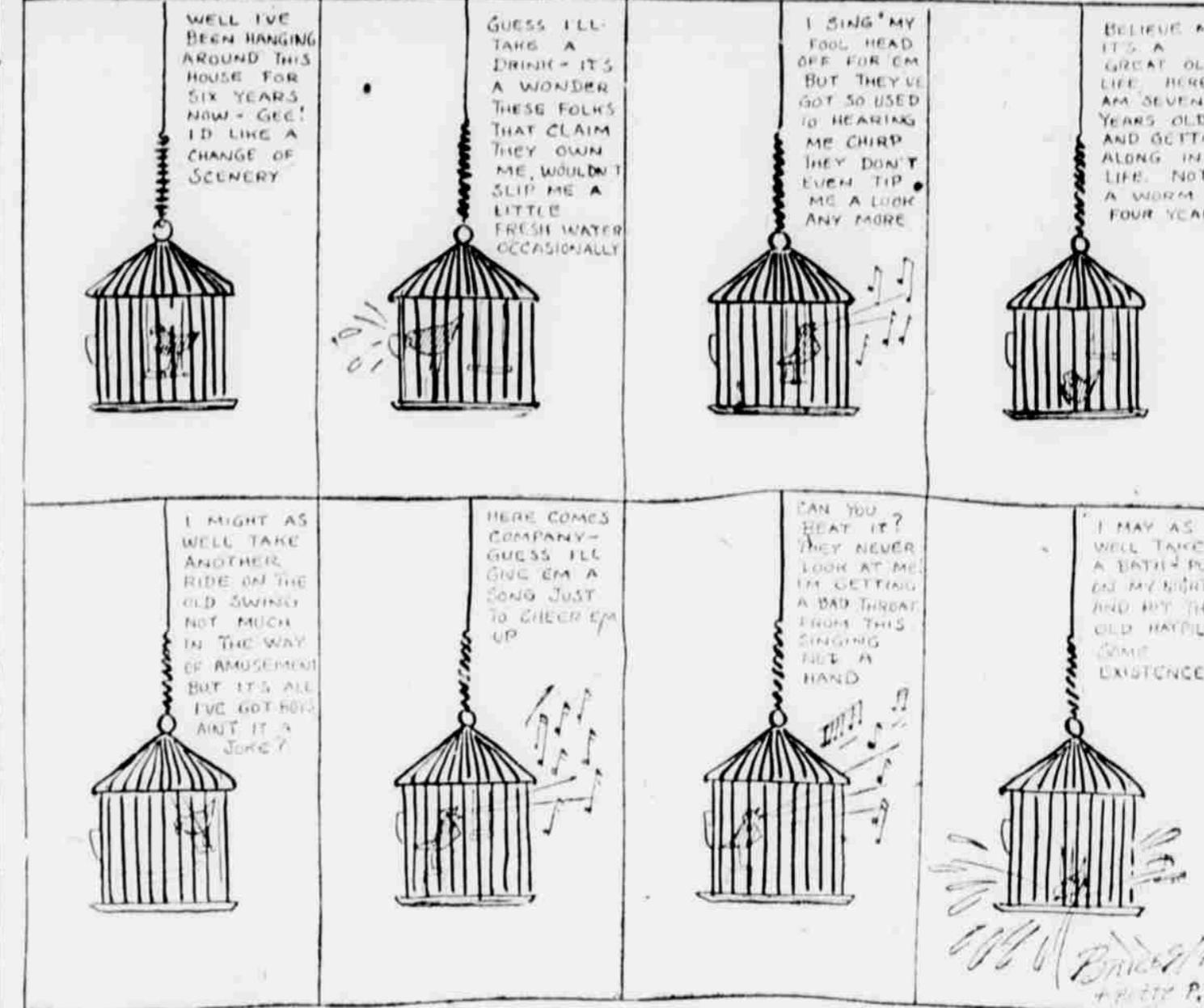
"You wonder if you could?" what?

THE GUMPS—COMPETITION IN THE MEAT BUSINESS IS SOMETHING FIERCE



## WONDER WHAT A SEVEN-YEAR-OLD CANARY BIRD THINKS ABOUT

By BRIGGS



## Old Stories in New Type from The Times

Twenty Years Ago.  
Real Estate Transfer. W. L. Alexander, under W. J. Patterson, lots 22 and 23, block 7, South Oklahoma.

Frank Cochran yesterday resigned as chief of police.

Next Friday night there will be a Gramophone entertainment at the Congregational church.

Fifteen Years Ago.  
Miss Helen Finerty entertained with a party Friday evening at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Finerty, 200 East Fifth street.

Mrs. George Scholberg spent the past week in Kansas City.

Mr. and Mrs. T. W. McGahan of Shawnee are in the city visiting Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Anderson of 224 West Ninth street.

Ten Years Ago.  
Miss Katherine Wood of Watonga will arrive today to visit Miss Margaret Ekridge of 117 West Fourth street.

Yesterday building permits for \$1,500 were issued, revealing the great prosperity of the city.

Plans for the new \$300,000 high school have just been completed.

## Rippling Rhymes by Walt Mason

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NONE PERFECT.

No man is perfect, 'neath the sky  
There is a flaw in every guy. We  
could not bring endure the man  
constructed so far a plan that all  
our searching would not find a blemish  
in his heart or mind. This most  
astonishing of gents would be a woman.

Maybe a marriedman would believe  
himself and go to church often, if you  
could get him to believe that the  
assistant deevil in Hell are women  
in greasy kilomous who nag day and  
night.

Another reason why married life is  
one long battle is because he never  
has to be sure that some one is roasting  
you. I have a lot of loathsome  
faults; my gall is fierce, my  
science halts; sometimes I drop my  
lire and pen to take a sack and steal  
my friends; my list of failings never  
ends. And you are roasting me, I  
know, as I go waddling to and fro,  
and pointing out the things I lack  
to make me like a winner stack.

After a time the little fellow inquired  
of his master, "Why wasn't I  
there?" Where was I?"

His mother replied, "Oh, you were  
not here."

"Where was I?" asked the child.

His mother looked at him, hesitated  
a moment, then added, "Oh, you  
were in heaven with God and the  
angels."

"Get mother!" exclaimed the indignate  
youngster, "do you mean to  
say you left me in heaven all day  
with God and the angels while you  
and the rest of the family went to the  
circus?"

The former kaiser denies the report  
that he fled into Holland.

The press associations usually try to  
believe and may have used the wrong  
word in this case, but if the kaiser  
insists on exactness it will be quite  
easy to substitute "naked" for "led."

—Alva Review-Courier

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